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Viewing cable 07COLOMBO516, SRI LANKA REQUESTS US MILITARY TEAM TO ASSESS AIR DEFENSE FOLLOWING LTTE AIR ATTACK

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#07COLOMBO516**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
07COLOMBO516	2007-04-01 05:33	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Colombo

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/the-india-cables/article1538179.ece>

VZCZCXYZ0001
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHLM #0516/01 0910533
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 010533Z APR 07
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5791
INFO RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 3645
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 0815
RUEHCG/AMCONSUL CHENNAI 7563
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 000516

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STATE FOR SCA AND PM, USPACOM FOR FPA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/31/2017

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SUBJECT: SRI LANKA REQUESTS US MILITARY TEAM TO ASSESS AIR DEFENSE FOLLOWING LTTE AIR ATTACK

REF: COLOMBO 491

Classified By: Ambassador Robert O. Blake, Jr. for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

1. (C/NF) Summary: Defense Secretary Gotabhaya Rajapaksa convoked Ambassador and Defense Attache on March 30 to request the visit of a U.S. n End summary.

AIR DEFENSE CONCERNS AS A RESULT OF LTTE ATTACK

2. (C/NF) Rajapaksa said that Sri Lanka had known about the LTTE's efforts to create an air wing for at least eight years, including full kn Radar Systems Not Sufficient

3. (C/NF) Rajapaksa said that Sri Lanka's current radar systems are not sufficient to meet the LTTE air threat. He told the Ambassador India U.S. Assistance Requested

4. (C/NF) The Defense Secretary requested U.S. military assistance in assessing Sri Lanka's entire Air Defense System and help in acquiring t

5. (C/NF) Ambassador responded that the Embassy would convey Sri Lanka's request to Washington immediately. Noting the assistance the Govern Military Air Base to Move

6. (C/NF) As part of the effort to address the newly exposed weaknesses, Rajapaksa revealed that he has asked the Sri Lankan Air Force to mov Comment and Action Request

7. (C) Embassy recommends Washington approve the Government of Sri Lanka's request to send an assessment team. Since Sri Lanka remains vulne Blake